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WHOLE NO. 233.

Addressed by WM. H. HARRISON, to SIMON EOLIVAR, President and Liberator of Colombia, when he was about to assume despotic power.

BOGOTA, 27th Sept., 1829. Sin,-If there is any thing in the style, the matter, or the object of this letter, which is calculated to give offence to your Excellency, Iam persuaded you will readily forgive it, when you reflect on the motives which induced me to write it. An old soldier could possess no feelings but those of the kindest character towards one who has shed so much lustre on the profession of arms; nor can a citizen of the country of Washington cease to wish that, in Bolivar, the world might behold another instance of the highest mil-itary attainments, united with the purest patriotism, and the greatest capacy for civil government. Such, sir, have been the fond hopes, not

only of the people of the U. States, but of the friends of liberty throughout the world. I will not say that your Excellency has formed projects to defeat these hopes. But, there is no doubt, that they have not only been formed, but are, at this moment, in progress to maturity, and openly avowed by will not attribute to these men impure motives; but can they be disinterested advisers? Are they not the very persons who will gain most by the proposed change? who will in-deed gain all that is to be gained, without that, the price of their future wealth & honors, is to be furnished exclusivel by your-self? And of what does it consist? Your great character. Such a one, that, if a man this sacrifice, for such an object?

I am persuaded that those who advocate these measures, have never dared to induce you to adopt them, by any argument foun-

is the question, then, to be examined. Does the history of this country, since the adoption of the Constitution, really exhibit imequivocal evidence that the people are unfit to be free? Is the exploded opinion of a European philosopher of the last age, that "in the new hemisphere, man is a degraded being," to be renewed, supported by the

n so humiliating. s a deep interest in the suc-A derica, I have r observer of events the achievement of it events I search in vi of society is unsuited to free government. Will government did exist,

of the majority of the ped It is the most difficult to ling in the world session of their rights, as copie in the pos-ever be willing to surrend freemen, would for me to believe that a p or them, and submit themselves to the will any such instances are on thus transferred has been extreme public danger, very short period. is by any means certa of the French people favored the elevation of Napoleon to the throne of France. But il it were so, hg w different were the circumstances of the at country, from those of Colombin, Where the Constitution of Concuta tended to produce it, they would be countwas overthrown. At the period of the elevation of Napoleon to the First Consulate, all the powers of Europe were the open or secret enemies of France-civil war raged within her borders-the hereditary king possessed many partizans in every provincethe people, continually betrayed by the factions which murdered and succeeded each other, had imbibed a portion of their ferocity, and every town and village witnessed and women, of all parties and principles .-Does the history of Colombia, since the exbeen never seriously menaced—no civil war has raged -not a portion of the former government was to be found in the whole extent of her territory-no factions contended fluence, alone, unaided, by unlimited pow- and feelings which fit him for the enjoywith each other for the possession of power; the executive government remained in the hands of those to whom it had been committed by the People, in a fair election. In fact, of a despotic government, to the enjoyment | brought, that you alone can preserve it from | ces of wealth from its subjects, will not find of entire freedom, with less disposition to the horrors of anarchy. But I cannot con- the means of improving the morals and enabuse their newly acquired power than ceive that any extraordinary powers are those of Colombia. They submitted indeed to a continuance of some of the most arbitrary and unjust leatures which distinguish- of the country to enforce their execution, is ed the former government. If there was all that is required, and is what is possess any disposition on the part of the great mass ed by the Chief Magistrate of the United ness and your fame, will the pomp and glit- are scarcely thought of. The source of the of the people, to effect any change in the Sirtes, and of every other Republic; and is ter of a court, and the flattery of venal veneration and esteem which is entertained existing order of things; if the Colombians what was confided to the Executive, by courtiers, reward you for the troubles, and for his change in the courtiers. act from the same motives and upon the same principles which govern mankind else- talents or your energies be impaired in the sovereignty, every where, and those which as well as the republican, is to be found in where, and in all ages, they would have desired to take from the government a part of sened, when acting as head of a Republic? they had confided to it. The monopoly of certain articles of agricultural produce, and posed change of government: 1st, in rela- grouns of dissatisfied and oppressed people the oppressive duty of the Alcavala, might have been tolerated, until the last of their personally. Is the tranquility of the country and 2d, to yourself, will penetrate the immost recesses of your sing prosperity of that country is constant-palace, and you will be tortured by the retry to be secured by it? Is it possible for flection, that you no longer possess that when peace was restored, when not one en-

the said to be a

the government to put down.

hose who possess your cutire confidence. I public, appeared, and, in a moment, all opposition ceased, and Venezuela was restored to the republic. But, it is said, that this was effected by your personal influence, or the dread of your military talent, and that, to keep Gen. Paez & other ambitious chiefs furnishing any part of the equivalent? That from dismembering the republic, it was necessary to invest your Excellency with the extraordinary powers you possess. There would be some reason in this, if you had refused to act without these powers; or hav-ing acted, as you did, you had been unable

being," to be renewed, supported by the must be confessed, better accords with the convincing the factions that their cause was nature of Colembia? The proofs should nature of the powers to be exercised. If they adopt the less offensive title, and if possession of arbitrary power, by the govardont an order to be confessed, better accords with the convincing their strength, and in the possession of arbitrary power, by the govardont an order to be confessed, better accords with the convincing their strength, and convincing their strength, and convincing their strength, and convincing their strength, and convincing the faction, exhibiting their strength, and convincing the faction of the co a deep interest in the sucutions in the late Spanish
ever been an inattentive
pending and posterior to
sindependence. In these
ain for a single fact to
spirators, ancient or modern, against the
spirators ancient or modern ancie

tunately, has been already commenced. Ev- interests, cannot be mistaken. It arises course? Can any one acquainted with the ery step you advance, under the influence of such councils, will make retreat more difficult, until it will become impracticable .-You will be told that the intention is only in a moment of to yest you with authority to correct what and then limited to is wrong in the Administration, and to put down the factions, &, that, when the couno, that the majority try once enjoys tranquility, the government favored the elevation may be restored to the people. Delusive will be the hopes of those who rely upon this declaration. The promised hour of tranquility will never arrive. If events eracted by the Government itself. It was ery thing within its grasp-destroying the hesitate to declare my firm belief, that it a strong remark of a former President of very germ of future prosperity. Is there will succeed. The people of Colombia be contented with the first smiles of his mistress, than a government cease to endeavor whatever reluctance your Excellency may commence the career-with whatever dis position to abandon it, when the objects for which it was corr menced have been obtainthe indiscriminate slaughter of both men ed-when once fairly entered, you will be borne along by the irresistible force of pride, pulsion of the Spaniards, present any paral-lel to these scenes? Her frontiers have cede. and it will be impossible to re-pretended is ultimately to be bestowed upon the strong motives which exist, to obtain

er, the ambitious chiefs in the different de-partments are to be restrained, and the in-per school in which to acquire the knowlnecessary. The authority to see that the laws are executed-to call out the strength if it could, it would not. council, or the field, or your influence les-

emy remained within its borders, it might reasonably have been supposed that the people would have desired to aboush these reple would have desired to about the people would have the people would have desired to about the people would have your Excellency to believe, that when the place in their affection which was once your to you, and it depends upon yourself to ut-

mains of arbitrary government, and substi- ly submit to it? Will they forget the pass authority can be maintained, only by the you won on the fields of Vargas. Bayaca, are those which exist only between parties tute for them some tax more equal and ac- word which, like the cross of fire, was the terrors of the sword and the scaffold. And and Carebobo, will be forever green; but at war. tute for them some tax more equal and accordant with republican principles.

On the contrary, it is pretended, that they had become enamored with these despote measures, and so disgusted with the so lately animated the youth to victory?—
irecdom they did enjoy, that they were more Was the patriotic blood of Colombia all exthan willing to commit their destinies to pended in the fields of Nargas, Bayacan, the uncontrolled will of your Excellency. and Carebobo? The schools may cease to Let me assure you, sir, that these assertions enforce upon their pupils the love of counwill gain no credit with the present gener-try, drawn from the examples of Cato and ation, or with posterity. They will demand the facts, which had induced a people, by no means deficient in intelligence, so soon to abandon the principles for which they had so gallantly fought, and tamely surrender that liberty, which had been obtained. had so gallantly fought, and tamely surren-der that liberty, which had been obtained ance of arbitrary power in your hands will at the expense of so much blood. And what be the commencement of commotions which facts can be produced? It can not be said will require all your talents and energies to bosom. That like the last of the Romans, brated people, in the science most useful to that life and property were not as well pro-tected under the republican government, as they ever have been; nor that there existed any opposition to the Constitution and and scattered population; but one unsuclaws, too strong for the ordinary powers of cessful effort will not content them, and If the insurrection of Gen. Pacz, in Venczuela, is adduced, I would ask, by what
means was the reduced to obedience? Your
ther, and to invoke blessings on your head.

The place which you are to occurrent to execute justice with unneczesary vigor. But trust me, sir, that there
there, and to invoke blessings on your head. Excellency, the legitimate head of the republic, appeared, and, in a moment, all op-principles which you yourself had taught of our nature, than the exercise of unlimit them to regard more than their lives.

If by the strong government which the advocates for the proposed change so stren-uously recommend, one without responsibility is intended, which may put men to death, and immure them in dungeons, with- of his murdered victims might become muout trial, and one where the army is every sic to his soul, and the drippings of the thing, and the people nothing, I must say, scaffold afford "blood enough to swim in." thing, and the people nothing, I must say, that, if the tranquility of Colombia is to be preserved in this way, the wildest anarchy would be preferable. Out of that anarchy were wise, and possessed of the empire of the Casars, in its best days, he would give all to obtain. Are you prepared to make you succeeded, completely, and there can chains of military despotism once fastened you as the constitutional Chief Magistrate

ernments is that which is most free. We consider that of the United States as the much calamity. They differ, however, very convulsion. In both, it has been sufficient-

been so artifully laid to entrap you, and that the drooping state of agriculture? The s, to stop short in the course which, unfor- cause of the constant decline, in these great from the fewness of those who labor, and the number of those who are to be supported by that labor. To support a swarm of luxurious & idle monks, & an army greatly disproportioned to the resources of country, with a body of officers, in a ten fold degree disproportioned to the army, every branch of industry is oppressed with burdens which deprive the ingenious man of the profits of his ingenuity, and the la-borer of his reward. To satisfy the constant and pressing demands which are made upon it, the Treasury seizes upon evthe U. States, that, "sooner will the lover any prospect that these evils will cease with the proposed change? Can the army be der a republican government. A more or dispensed with?—Will the influence of the derly, forbearing and well disposed people to preserve and extend its powers." With monks be no longer necessary? Believe are no where to be met with. Indeed, me, sir, that the support which the government derives from both these sources, will be more than ever requisite.

But the most important inquiry is, the effect which this strong government have upon the people themselves. Will it habit of command, and need, for self-pres- tend to improve and elevate their character, But, it is said, that it is for the benefit of the people that the proposed change is to be made; and that by your talents and in-learn under oppression those noble qualities tegrity of the republic preserved. I have edge of the principles of Republican govsaid, and I most sincerely believe, that, from erament. A government whose revenues the state into which the country has been are derived from diverting the very sourlightening the minds of the youth, by supporting systems of liberal education; and

In relation to the effect which this invest-

for a period, but can never extinguish the amongst the mass of those whose fame has fire of liberty, which you have contributed been derived from shedding human blood,

I will not urge as an argument, the pertion of so many human beings-your countrymen-your former friends and almost your worshippers. The pangs of such a situation will be made more acute, by reflecting on the hallowed motive of many of they would strike, not from hatred to the

ever be brought to commit an act of tyran- The place which you are to occupy in their ed power. The man who, in the beginning of such a career, might shudder at the idea of taking away the life of a fellow being might soon have his conscience so seare. by the repetition of crime, that the agonies History is full of such examples.

From this disgusting picture, permit me you succeeded, completely, and there can be no possible reason assigned, why you upon a nation, ages might pass away bewould not have succeeded, with the same means, against any luture attempt of Gen.

But I contend that the strongest of governments is that which is most tree. We ded on your personal interests; and that, to succeed, it would be necessary to convince you that no other course remained, to save the country from the evils of anarchy. This save the country from the evils of anarchy. This save the country from ruin, at least, from the evils of anarchy. no longer permitted to control public opinwidely, as to the measures to be taken to put your excellency in the way to render this important service. The lesser & more of more effectually put down. Not so much treasury, and the establishment of order, this important service. The lesser & more interested party, is for placing the Government in your hands for life; either with by the terrors of the guillotine or the gibbet, as from the aroused determination of the component, it would soon your present title, or with one which, it nopolies, and the duty of the Aleavala, which have operated with so much malign an effect upon commerce and agriculture, they adopt the less offensive title, and if possession of arbitrary power, by they weave into their system some apparent ernment of Colombia, will not be the means and indeed, upon the revenues which they weave into their system some apparent of securing tranquility; nor will the danger were intended to augment. No longer oppressed by these shackles, industry every where revive; the farmer and the artizan, cheered by the prospect of ample reward for their labor, would redouble their sindependence. In these vents I search in vents and directions of the concealed goddess.

What objection can be urged against this circumstances of the country, doubt its success, in restoring & maintaining tranquility. The people would certainly not revolt against themselves; and none of the Chiefs who are supposed to be factiously incline would think of opposing the strength of the nation when directed by your talents and authority. But it is said, that the want of intelligence amongst the people unfits them for their own Government. Is it not right however, that the experiment should be fairly tried? I have already said, that this has not been done. For myself, I do not possess many traits of character, suitable may safely be asserted, that their faults and vices are attributable to the cursed Government to which they have been so long subjected, and to the intolerant character of the religion, whilst their virtues are all their own. But admitting their present want of intelligence, no one has ever doubted their the strong motives which exist, to obtain it, supported by the influence of your Excellency, it would soon be obtained.

To yourself the advantage would be as great us to the country; like acts of mercy, ted States, can without disregarding the the blessings would be reciprocal; your law of God and his own duty, aid or assist a single competitor in the estimation of

upon his military achievements, would the common consent of the world allow him the pre-eminence he possesses? The victories or if he be found in his hand he shall be at Trenton, Monmouth, and York, brilliant | put to death," is as evinsive of guilt and sin s they were, exhibiting as they certainly ment of power is to have upon your happi- did, the highest grade of military tal-ots, the Constitution of Cucuta. Would your anxieties attendant upon the exercise of politicians-the monarchist and aristocrat, Or his undeviating and exclusive devotedness power, supported by the bayoner, for that to the interest of his country. No selfish I propose to examine, very briefly, the willing homoge which you were wont to consideration was ever suffered to intrude by the rules of right and wrong applied to results which are likely to flow from the proposed change of growing and neither North or itself into his mind. For his country he human conduct; and neither North or conquered; and the unrivalled and increaly adding fresh glory to his name. Gen- prostrating the moral law and government

have these ever been successful under sim- will that content you? Are you willing ilar circumstances? Blood may smother, that your name should descend to posterity, so much to kindle in the bosom of every without a single advantage to the human colombian. Washington, as the founder and the father sonal dangers to which you will be exposed.

But I will ask if you could enjoy life, which would be preserved by the constant executive under the world, and the people of the United States in particular, are waiting your decision with intense anxiety. Alexander toiled and conquered to attain the applause of the Athenians; will you regard as nothing the opinions of a nation which man, by having carried into actual practice From a knowledge of your own disposition, and present feelings, your Excellency and considered as a blessing never to be realised, however ardently to be desired? a system of governn. int, of which the wi-

W. H. HARRISON.

From the Mountain Democrat. ANTI-SLAVERY MEETING.

fane, on the 24th instant for the purpose of forming an Anti-Slavery Society. After a few brief statements of the object of the which he must lock up the faculties of his meeting from T. Goodale, Esq. the Hon, Judge Phelps was appointed chairman and

O. L. Shaffer, Secretary pro tem.

After prayer by the Rev. Mr Bruce, the
Rev. Mr Beckley, T. Goodale, and theRev. MrBruce were appointed as a committee to draft a Constitution. Deac. C. Wheaton, Rev. N. Ames, and P. Allea were appointed as a committee to nominate officers—Judge Rev. N. Ames, and P. Alica were appointed committee to nominate officers—Judge Phelps, Rev. N. Ames, and Messrs. Alica, Shafter and Robbins a committee to draft

Convention adjourned till two o'clock.

The Convention met pursuant to adjourn ment, at the time and place appointed.— Before proceeding to business the Convention listened to an able and interesting ad-Iress on the subject of Slavery by the Rev. Guy Beckley. After the address the com-mittee appointed to draft a Constitution, made their Report, and with a single amendment, the articles as reported were adopted by the Convention.

CONSTITUTION.

Art. 1. This Society shall be called the Windham County Anti-Slavery Society, and shall be auxiliary to the Vt. Anti-

to secure the immediate and entire emancipation of the enslaved from the apprehen-sion of Slavery,—of the free blacks from the oppression of public sentiment, and the elevation of both to the enjoyment of equal intellectual, civil and religious rights and privileges. And this Society will endeavor to effect these objects, by the use of such christian means, as are suited to correct prevailing and wicked prejudices, and to change the public sentiment of the nation in regard to the rights of the enslaved-but will never encourage a resort to violence in vindication of those rights.

[The remaining articles relate to the eection of officers, &c.]

The committee of nomination reported list of officers which was accepted, as fol-

Hon. CHARLES PHELPS, President. T. GOODALE, Vice Presidents. Rev. N. AMES, Rev. G. Beckley, O. L. Shafter, Rec. Secretary.
J. Holton, M. D. Cor. Secretary. P. ALLEN, Treasurer. Rev. E. BRUCE, WM. R. SHAFTER, Esq. Executive J. BROWN, Esq. Committee. W. FROST, Esq.

N. Cheney, Esq.
The committee of resolutions reported the following resolutions - which after some debate, were unanimously adopted by the Convention. 1, Resolved, That no citizen of the Uni-

personal happiness secured, and your fame in upholding the system of human bondage clevated to a height which would leave but at present maintained in some of the states of the federal government, 2. Resolved, That the command commu-

If the fame of our Washington depended nicated from heaven more than three thou-"and he that stealeth a man and selleth him, now as it was then.

3. Resolved, That should it be conceded that the staple of the cane, cotton, and rice plantations cannot be sustained in their profits without the aid of systematically oppressive slave laws, a regard for national inoner and the immutable principles of justice, require that those plantations, and all other employments should be regulated human conduct; and neither North or South, East or West, can, under the plea of necessity, degrade men into beasts, without of the Creator of heaven and earth.

4. Resolved, That freedom and bondage

5. Resolved, That the creation of man in the image of his Maker, and the original grant that he should have dominion over the fish of the sea, the fewls of the nir, and the beasts of the field, are living demonstrations that he has no such dominion over his fellow men.

6. Resolved, That the provision in the Constitution which guaranteed to every State in this Union a republican form of government and protection against domestic violence, is violated when new states are admitted with constitutions expressly inhibiting equal rights to those, who, free by the laws of God, are held in slavery by the laws of man.

7. Resolved, That the political creed of Jefferson published in the year 1782, contains doctrines not less republican than the creeds of some statesmen in 1835. The following, as a specimen, is recommended to their particular consideration :- "The man must be a prodigy who can retain his manners and morals undeprayed, when nursed, educated and daily exercised in acts of tyranny and the statesman should be loaded with with execution who per-mits one half of the citizens to trample on the rights of the other, transforms those into despots, and these into enemies, de-Pursuant to notice, the citizens of Windham county to the number of 70 or 20, assembled at the Court House, Newamor patriae of the other. For if a slave can have a country in this world, it must be any other in preference to that in which which he must lock up the faculties of his nature, contribute as far as depends on his individual endeavors to the evanishment of the human race, or entait his own miserable condition on the endless generations pro-ceeding from him. And can the liberties are to be violated but with his wrath?— Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that his justice cannot sleep forever; that considering numbers, nature and natural means only, a revolution of the wheels of fortune, an exchange of situation is among possible events; that it may become probable by supernatural interference! The Almighty has no attributes which can take sides with

us in such a contest."

8. Resolved, That no other state of Heathenism in the known world holds any comparison with that of our slaves; that Hindoo, Hottentot and Burman, have opportunity to leave the realm of oppression, and go where there is liberty,—the region of darkness, and go where there is light. Not so with the slave,—he must stay, and work, and die, and go to the grave as he

Slavery Society.

Art. 2. The fundamental principle of this society is, that the holding of human beings as properly, is a flagrant sin against God, and the rights of humanity, and ought therefore to be immediately and forever abandoned.

Art. 3. The objects of this Society are inconstitutional censorship over our privipeople; and we are the more mindful of it, as they seem to forget it, by establishing unconstitutional censorship over our privileges as citizens of the United States.

10. Resolved, That with the help of God, we will according to our ability, so present truth, justice and mercy, to the hearts and consciences of slaveholders, that they shall feel it their privilege to undo the heavy burdens, and let the oppressed go free.
11. Resolved, That to discuss and decry

slavery is our business and our duty, as much as to do it against any other abomination existing in our world-and we cannot sanction it without being partakers in the crime, and sharers in the plagues, 12. Resolved, That the Protestant cler-

gymen of this country, who make scripture arguments in defence of our domestic slavery, are, in so doing pursuing a course calculated to bring the Bible into disrepute as a rule of faith and practice, by weakening the internal evidences of its truth.

The following resolutions were submitted by Rev. Justin Parsons, a soldier of the revolution, personally acquainted with Gen. Washington:

Whereas, we are informed by Infinite Wisdom, that a soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger, and that a soft tongue breaketh the bone; therefore,

1. Resolved, That we will in all our intercourse with our brethren, who, in any measure, justify the holding of men as chattels, use that soft tongue which breaketh the bone, and never use those grievous

words that stir up anger.

2. Resolved, That we will continue in this cause until every bone of oppression shall be broken, and the oppressed shall be allowed to go out free.

3. Resolved, That the Convention rec-

mend to the several towns in this county sand years ago by the mouth of the prophet, to form societies as soon as practicable, auxiliary to the county society.

4. Resolved, That the Board of Managers be directed, to use their efforts for the establishment of a depository for anti-slavery publications in some central part of this

5. Resolved. That the editors of the Mountain Democrat and Vermont Phonix, be requested, each, to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

The Convention adjourned sine die. CHARLES PHELPS, Chair'n.

O. L. SHAFTER, Secretary.

What I like to sec.

I like to see men pay their debts on the back of an execution-it saves trouble hereafter.

I like to see men when they make mistakes have them always in their own favor; it shows they wish to take care of one.